

Legal Induced Abortion Reporting in the United States

Why is legal abortion reporting important?

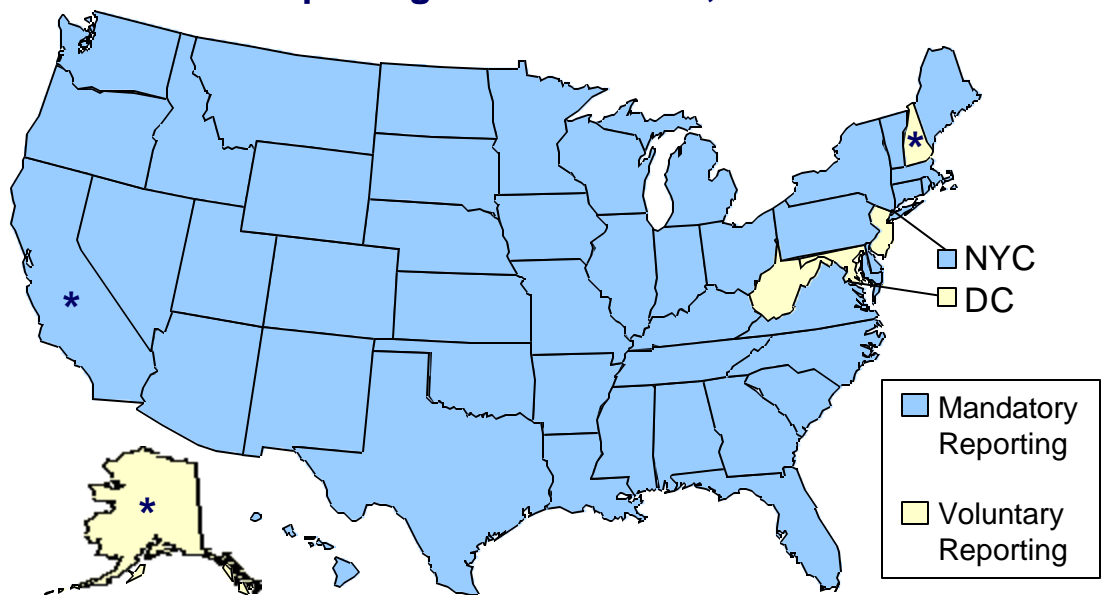
Legal induced abortion data are used to

- Define characteristics of women at high risk for unintended pregnancy.
- Monitor trends in the number, rate, and ratio, of abortion, types of procedures used, and gestational age (in weeks) when abortions are performed.
- Calculate pregnancy rates (in conjunction with births and fetal deaths).
- Evaluate the effectiveness of family planning programs and programs to prevent unintended pregnancy.

Reporting issues

- 47 states, New York City, and the District of Columbia collect data on legal induced abortions.
- 44 reporting areas collect abortion data as required by state statute/regulation or law.
- Every hospital, Medicare facility, or licensed clinician in required areas must report each induced abortion performed to the central department of health by means of a standardized form for that reporting area.
- The time period for filing reports after legal induced abortion varies widely by state.

Abortion Reporting, by Reporting Area and Type of Reporting—United States, 2000



* Currently this state does not collect data on induced termination of pregnancy.

Source: Reporting of medical abortions: Information for providers. *Am J Obstet Gynecol*, 2000; 183:S24-S25

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	Reporting form includes medical (nonsurgical) procedures	Time for Reporting	Contact state/reporting area office for more info
Alabama *		10 days after end of month	(334) 206-5426
Alaska †	Y	_____	(907) 465-3090
Arizona †		Monthly	(602) 542-1216
Arkansas *		5 days after procedure	(501) 661-2036
California ‡	NA	_____	(916) 323-2662
Colorado §		5 days after procedure	(303) 692-2160
Connecticut *		7 days after procedure	(860) 509-7897
Delaware *	Y	30 days after end of month	(302) 739-4776
Dist. of Col.	Y	_____	(202) 442-5865
Florida *		Monthly	(904) 359-6900
Georgia *		10 days after procedure	(404) 656-4750
Hawaii †		1 month after procedure	(808) 586-4600
Idaho *	Y	15 days after end of month	(208) 334-5992
Illinois *		10 days after end of month	(217) 782-6554
Indiana *		Twice a year	(317) 233-2700
Iowa *		30 days after procedure	(515) 281-5787
Kansas *	Y	Annually	(785) 296-8627
Kentucky *	Y	15 days after end of month	(502) 564-4212
Louisiana *		15 days after procedure	(504) 568-5152
Maine *	Y	10 days after end of month	(207) 287-5445
Maryland		_____	(410) 767-6783
Massachusetts *		30 days after procedure	(617) 753-8624
Michigan *	Y	7 days after procedure	(517) 335-8705
Minnesota *	Y	by April 1 for previous year	1-800-657-3900
Mississippi *	Y	5 days after procedure	(601) 576-7960
Missouri *	Y	45 days after procedure	(573) 751-6381

	Reporting form includes medical (nonsurgical) procedures	Time for Reporting	Contact state/reporting area office for more info
Montana *		30 days after procedure	(406) 444-5249
Nebraska *	Y	15 days after end of month	(402) 471-3121
Nevada *		No time for report specified	(775) 684-4242
New Hampshire ‡	Y	_____	(603) 271-4650
New Jersey **	Y	No time for report specified	(609) 984-6702
New Mexico *	Y	5 days after procedure	(505) 827-2338
New York †	Y	72 hours after procedure	(518) 474-3077
New York City *	Y	5 days after procedure	(212) 788-4520
North Carolina *	Y	Monthly	(919) 733-3526
North Dakota *	Y	30 days after procedure	(701) 328-2360
Ohio *	Y	15 days after discharge ¶	(614) 466-2531
Oklahoma *		_____	(405) 271-3430
Oregon *	Y	5 days after procedure	(503) 731-4108
Pennsylvania *	Y	15 days after end of month	(717) 783-2548
Rhode Island †	Y	7 days after procedure	(401) 222-2812
South Carolina *		7 days after procedure	(803) 898-3324
South Dakota *	Y	by Jan. 15 for previous year	(605) 773-4961
Tennessee *		10 days after procedure	(615) 741-1954
Texas *	Y	by Jan. 31 for previous year	(512) 458-7111
Utah *	Y	10 days after procedure	(801) 538-6105
Vermont *	Y	7 days after procedure	(802) 863-7275
Virginia †	Y	3 days after procedure	(804) 225-5076
Washington *	Y	Monthly for previous month	(360) 236-4313
West Virginia **	Y††	_____	(304) 558-9100
Wisconsin *	Y	by Jan. 15 for previous year	(608) 266-2838
Wyoming *	Y	20 days after procedure	(307) 777-7591

Note: State abortion reporting statutes are subject to modification or change at any time, therefore it is important to verify state reporting requirements with the state's office of vital statistics.

* Induced termination of pregnancy reporting is specifically required by state statute or regulation.

† Reporting is done in accordance with the state's fetal death reporting statute or regulation.

‡ Currently this state does not collect data on induced termination of pregnancy.

§ State collects abortion data in accordance with its death certification statutory law.

¶ Reporting requirements refer to reporting by hospitals.

** A broad health statute provides legal authority for abortion data collection.

†† Category not specified but includes fill-in procedure column.

NA Not available

Source: Reporting of medical abortions: Information for providers. *Am J Obstet Gynecol*, 2000: 183:S24-S25; Unpublished data, Alan Guttmacher Institute, 2000.

For information on the medication, mifepristone, recently approved by the FDA for termination of early pregnancy: <http://www.fda.gov/cder/drug/infopage/mifepristone/>.

For further information on abortion surveillance, or the latest legal abortion statistics reported by CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/epo/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm4851a3.htm>.